

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 USIA-06

COME-00 BIB-01 /073 W

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R 191625Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6904

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USAREUR

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USIA WASHDC

DOD

CHINFO WASHDC

OSAF

DEPT OF ARMY WASHDC

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USAREUR FOR AEAPA, FRANKFURT FOR AFN-LCL MCBRIDE, STATE PASS BIB,

USIA FOR MOCERI, DOD FOR OEAF-VALENTINO, CHINFO FOR OPOO71C,

OSAF FOR SAFOIL, DEPT OF ARMY FOR OCINFO LCOL ODOM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ETEL, ITU, GW, GE, US, UK, SF

SUBJECT: ITU LF/MF CONFERENCE: SOUTH AFRICA - SITREP NO. 21

1. IN PLENARY SESSION ON EVENING NOVEMBER 18, CONFERENCE APPROVED AFRICAN SPONSORED RESOLUTION WHICH HAS EFFECT OF DELETING ALL SOUTH AFRICAN REQUIREMENTS FROM NEW LF/MF BROADCASTING PLAN. VOTE, BY SECRET BALLOT AS PROVIDED IN ITU CONVENTION, WAS 64 IN FAVOR, 26 OPPOSED AND 6 ABSTENTIONS; THERE WAS ONE INVALID BALLOT.

2. OPERATIVE PARA OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE DECIDES THAT PROVISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE FOR BENEFIT OF MEMBER AND NON- MEMBER COUNTRIES ABSENT FROM THE CONFERENCE SHALL NOT BE APPLIED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA. END QUOTE.

3. SOUTH AFRICA WAS EXCLUDED FROM PARTICIPATION IN ALL ITU MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 31 OF ITU'S MALAGA-TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION OF 1973 AND WAS, ACCORDINGLY, NOT PRESENT AT LF/MF CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, SOUTH AFRICA IS STILL A MEMBER OF THE UNION AND ALL MEMBERS OF REGIONS 1 (EUROPE AND AFRICA) AND 3 (ASIA AND OCEANIA) WERE INVITED TO SUBMIT FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS. SOUTH AFRICA SUBMITTED ITS REQUIREMENTS TO ITU AND THESE WERE ENTERED IN ALL PLANS CONSIDERED BY CONFERENCE ALONGSIDE REQUIREMENTS OF SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES IN THESE REGIONS WHICH WERE ALSO NOT PRESENT AT CONFERENCE. THERE WAS NO OPEN OPPOSITION EXPRESSED TO SOUTH AFRICAN REQUIREMENTS UNTIL AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 17, WHEN AFRICAN RESOLUTION CIRCULATED AS CONFERENCE DOCUMENT. THIS RESOLUTION WAS THEN VOTED UPON AT PLENARY DURING EVENING OF NOVEMBER 18.

4. PRACTICAL EFFECTS OF CONFERENCE ACTION DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE AT THIS POINT. ON PAPER, ACTION MEANS THAT AS FAR AS PLAN IS CONCERNED, SOUTH AFRICA DOES NOT EXIST AND FREQUENCIES UTILIZED BY SAG COULD IN FACT BE ASSIGNED TO OTHERS; HOWEVER NO ACTION WHICH WOULD MAKE SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ASSIGNMENT WAS UNDERTAKEN AT THIS CONFERENCE. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER WE ASSUME SAG WILL CONTINUE TO UTILIZE FREQUENCIES AS BEFORE AND IT WILL THEN BE UP TO AFRICANS THEMSELVES TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY INTEND TO ENGAGE IN RADIO FREQUENCY WAR WITH SOUTH AFRICA. IN VIEW OF ONE FRIENDLY DELEGATION AT CONFERENCE, AFRICANS REGARD RESOLUTION AS PURELY POLITICAL GESTURE AND DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY PRACTICAL CHANGE TO FLOW FROM IT.

5. FOR PRETORIA. CONFERENCE, WHICH IN SESSION OCTOBER 6 - NOVEMBER 22, HAS AS OBJECTIVE PREPARATION OF NEW PLAN FOR LOW AND MEDIUM BROADCASTING FREQUENCIES FOR REGIONS 1 AND 3 AND IS BEING ATTENDED BY ITU MEMBERS OF THESE REGIONS. US, AS A MEMBER OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE REGION (REGION 2), IS NOT OFFICIALLY ATTENDING CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE HAD SMALL EXPERT TEAM IN GENEVA FOR DURATION OF CONFERENCE TO OVERSEE PROTECTION OF US BROADCASTING INTERESTS IN THESE AREAS.DALE

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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